

Washington, Dc – Today the U.S. House passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, a bill which lawmakers and experts say will save or create 3 to 4 million jobs, provide tax cuts to over 95% of Americans, and provide funding to help improve the nation's crumbling infrastructure. Wisconsin Congresswoman Gwen Moore, a member of the House Financial Services Committee, released the following statement regarding the bill:

"Today the Democratic-led Congress acted on behalf and in the interest of the millions of Americans who have lost their homes, jobs, and way of life. Though this bill is not a magic bullet for all of our economic woes, it is a step in the right direction towards the creation of jobs in America and helping our economy recover.

"There were many provisions in the House bill that were initially stripped in the Senate version, leaving much to be desired. However, I am glad that certain provisions I fought for have been included, in some form, in the final bill, including expanded payments and eligibility for the Child Tax Credit. This will allow more struggling working families with children to benefit from the Child Tax Credit and increase the income of the low-income working families of millions of children. In addition, because of the efforts by Sen. Kohl and myself, motorcycle buyers will benefit from the tax incentives in this bill-- which will help motorcycle manufacturers like Harley-Davidson-- save jobs in my district. Finally, college students who depend on Pell Grants to help fund their education now have \$500 more in funding because Rep. Wu and I fought to make sure this key provision was in this bill.

"Bottom line, many people in my district and around the country are hurting. And the creation of jobs to help relieve the economic trouble and strain that millions of Americans are experiencing will go a long way towards the road to recovery. As of December 2008 the unemployment rate in Wisconsin was 6.2%; if we do nothing we could see that number increase by nearly 2%. With the passage of this

recovery package we hope to see nearly 70,000 jobs saved or created in Wisconsin by 2010.

"This recovery plan includes help for those affected by the current recession by expanding unemployment benefits, Food Stamps, health coverage as well as providing billions for infrastructure improvement, the prevention of cutbacks to education and other vital programs, small business tax credits and even tax cuts for 95% of Americans. In crafting this bipartisan bill the goal was and has always been job retention and creation. Creating and saving jobs has to be an essential part of any effective economic recovery. Though no bill is perfect, when millions of Americans have either lost their jobs or homes or face the prospect of losing both, doing nothing is not an option.

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